

MINUTES OF THE KAIKOURA ZONE WATER COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT 12.30PM ON WEDNESDAY 27 JANUARY 2016 AT MEMORIAL HALL SUPPER ROOM, ESPLANADE, KAIKOURA.

PRESENT: T Howard (Chair), Commissioner D Bedford, T Blunt, M Hoggard, J Murray, G Solomon, T Sonal, N McArthur, K Drummond, J Harnett, T Boyd and W Gray.

IN ATTENDANCE: M Griffin (Zone Facilitator), C Armour, J Hill, K Heays, R Poulsen, B Taylor (Committee Secretary).

1. ACTION LIST

Follow up with MDC to affirm the shared interest and values associated with the Clarence Molesworth steering committee.

Follow up had not happened but would occur fairly urgently.

Prepare a short overview of KWZC contribution to integrated weed and pest control in with the Clarence Molesworth steering committee.

There was a final version of this. Jim Morton had had some good sessions with Steve Palmer.

NZTA follow up on transport corridor

Discussion had begun at the Te Korowai meeting but the thread had since been lost. It needed to be followed up and it was hoped there would be an update at the February meeting.

Clarence/Waiiau-toa Infographic

The infographic would be brought to the next meeting

2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES 28/10/2015

Moved by J Murray, seconded Commissioner Bedford and resolved that the minutes of the Kaikoura Zone Water Committee meeting held on 28 October 2015 be confirmed a true and accurate record.

3. WELCOME NEW COMMITTEE MEMBER

Nicky McArthur was introduced as a new Committee member. She had been the owner of Puhi Peaks Station in the Seaward Kaikoura Rand and was the Managing Director of tourism company Kaikoura Wilderness Experience Ltd which incorporated farm, tourism, hunting ventures and Shearwater Lodge.

4. PLAN CHANGE 5 BRIEFING

A PowerPoint presentation was shown and Devon Christiansen talked the Committee through it via telephone. There were two parts to the proposed Plan Change 5. Firstly the new region-wide nutrient rules that will apply to most of the nutrient zones and secondly the Waitaki Sub-region Section. The Plan would be notified for public submissions in February 2016. Once the plan changes had legal effect they would apply in the Kaikoura Zone until superseded by the Kaikoura sub-region rules. From the time that the Plan was notified the policies in the Plan would reinforce Good Management Practice and Farm Environment Plan requirements. The region wide rules were being developed for three primary reasons: to integrate outputs from

the Matrix of Good Management project, to address issues with OVERSEER version changes and to better manage risks to water quality.

5. IMMEDIATE STEPS UPDATE

Demand for Immediate Steps funding varied across the regions. Selwyn and Waimakariri were nearly at capacity, demand in Kaikoura was lower and Christchurch was lower still. J Hill had received an application from B Dunnett and it would be officially considered the following month. J Hill had been to visit the Black Billed Bull colony before Christmas. Of the 150 chicks that had hatched only 10 had survived, black bats were common predators of them. The previous year there had been no chicks survive so an improvement had already been seen. J Hill would put together a full report by April.

6. COMMITTEE/WORKING GROUP UPDATES

Love the Lyell/Waikoau

An irrigation system would be purchased for the area of planting near Mitre 10. The Youth Council would be holding a working bee at the site to carry out weed eating and mulch spreading.

Nutrient Management Group

The Group had discussed the issue of the mouth of Lyell Creek being frequently closed. The Council did periodically get contractors in to open the mouth to improve water flow and quality. The mouth of Lyell Creek could not remain permanently open due to ocean dynamics, tide and creek flow. A newspaper article was going to be published which would highlight the good work farmers had undertaken to improve water quality.

7. GENERAL BUSINESS AND FUTURE MEETING PRIORITIES

T Sonal advised she had been disappointed at the November meeting in Hanmer by the focus of the Hurunui Waiau Zone Committee on water use (i.e. drought) rather than the protection of the water. She further advised she was very pleased to have learnt a lot more about the Clarence River. It would be more beneficial to work with the other Zones to get a more successful result for the entire river. A discussion followed on approaches to weed control in the different priority areas within the catchment. Cloudy Station would use the gall mites on their property to reduce seed source and S Palmer would assist them in the successful distribution of the gall mites.

The Waimangarara River restoration sites were discussed. Pine trees in four areas indicated on a map had been milled. The areas had been fenced and ecologists had advised the area should be left to regenerate naturally. Planting natives would be costly as it took three years for them to establish and the river was sometimes dry. One of the four areas would be used for grazing.

There was discussion around the farmers using the online portal. It was generally felt a lot of support would be required to get them onboard and would require provide ongoing assistance. It was suggested the portal could be used to identify and map areas of noxious weeds.

The condition of the Kahutara River was discussed. The River was tested every Monday during summer. If it tested unsuitable for swimming the District Council was advised and their contractors (Food & Health Standards Ltd) erected warning signs. The signs were currently still up. The testing of the River had been carried out for the last 10 years.

8. FAREWELL KIM DRUMMOND

K Drummond was thanked for his many years of hard work in the Kaikoura region by T Howard on behalf of the Zone Committee, Te Korowai and the entire Kaikoura District.

There being no further business the meeting closed 3.30pm